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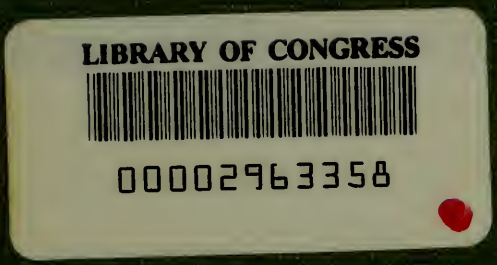

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THE DEW OF HERMON.

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BY MARTHA A. DANIEL.

SECOND EDITION,
REVISED, WITH ADDITIONS.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
1876
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"As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion; for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore." [Psalm cxxxiii. 3.

LEWISTON:
J. ALDEN SMITH, PRINTER, NO. 1, JONES BLOCK.
1858.

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PREFACE.

Having found much pleasure and profit in meditation, while searching the word of God, the writer would make no other excuse for presenting this little volume to the public, than that of duty to God and to her fellow-beings.

She does not presume to offer this collection as an illustration of God's Holy Word, but merely the language that flowed from the heart while meditating thereon.

She now submits it to the hand of God; hoping, by His blessing, it may prove beneficial to many of its readers.

DEW OF HERMON.

GOD'S PROMISE TO HIS CHURCH.

Give ear, O ye heavens, and I will speak; and hear, O earth, the words of my mouth. My doctrine shall drop as the rain: my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass.
[Deut. 32: 1, 2.

List, ye heavens! God is speaking:
Hear, O earth, the words of love!
Ye who are the promise seeking,
Hear the voice that's from above!

All my doctrine shall from heaven
Drop as gently as the rain,
And my speech distil at even,
Like the dew upon the plain.

As the dew and as the shower
Nourishes the tender blade,
So my word shall, in its power,
Strengthen thee and give thee aid

THE CHRISTIAN'S LOVE FOR THE CHURCH.

For the Lord will not forsake his people for his great name's sake: because it hath pleased the Lord to make you his people. Moreover, as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the Lord, in ceasing to pray for you. 1 Sam. 12: 22, 23.

He who hath pleased to make,
Will surely not forsake
His chosen people who obey;
Moreover, as for me,
Whene'er I bow the knee,
For them I ne'er will cease to pray.

But I will ever plead
That Israel, indeed,
May serve the Lord with all their might;
Consider—O how great
The Lord, thus to create,
And still preserve them in his sight!

May they not turn aside,
But evermore abide
Near by the fount of love divine;
The church of God to me
Precious shall ever be—
Their joys and sorrows still are mine.

THE CHURCH'S DELIVERANCE.

Their Redeemer is strong; The Lord of hosts is his name: he shall throughly plead their cause, that he may give rest to the land, and disquiet the inhabitants of Babylon.
[Jer. 50: 34.

Let Judah shout aloud,
  Let Israel praise the Lord:
He judgeth all the proud;
  He'll give them their reward;
For Judah's Great Redeemer's strong,
His people shall not suffer long.

But he will plead their cause,
  And surely give them rest
From all unholy laws,
  Which have their souls oppressed:
The Lord of hosts—that is his name:
He reigns in heaven and earth the same.

He is a gracious God;
  He cleanseth them from guilt;
His glorious words record
  The stone on which they built:
Christ is their sure foundation stone;
Their hopes are built on him alone.

THE CHURCH'S INVITATION.

In those days, and in that time, saith the Lord, the children of Israel shall come, they and the children of Judah together, going and weeping: they shall go and seek the Lord their God. They shall ask the way to Zion, with their faces thitherward, saying, Come, let us join ourselves to the Lord in a perpetual covenant, that shall not be forgotten. [Jer. 50: 4, 5.

When Israel gathered from abroad,
  To Zion ask the way,
And with their faces thitherward,
  To every one they say,
Come, let us join us to the Lord:
  His covenant obey.

Then shall the Lord his spirit pour
  Upon his chosen seed,
Nor shall they thirst or hunger more;
  He'll give them all they need,
For from his never failing store,
  On heavenly bread they'll feed.

Then he will make the crooked straight,
  Asunder cut their band,
He'll break in pieces every gate.
  What shall before him stand?
His people who upon him wait,
  Shall go possess the land.

He will be sanctified in them:
  Then shall the heathen know
That he their Lord that did condemn,
  Will also mercy show,
And will redeem Jerusalem
  From all her guilt and woe.

THE CHURCH'S TRIUMPH.

For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all nations. [Isa. 61: 11.

The genial earth the bud doth bring,
And gardens causeth forth to spring
The grain in season sown;
So shall the Lord cause righteousness
And praise to spring, his name to bless,
Before all nations known.

His word when sown, and kept by grace,
Receives the sunshine of his face,
And deeply taketh root:
Its branches shooteth up to heaven,
Then with the strength that God hath given,
It beareth precious fruit.

His people shall in every clime,
Proclaim aloud His truth sublime,
Till all the nations hear:
Hark, hear the heralds, while they say,
"Go through the gates: prepare the way:
Behold salvation near!"

Lo, how the nations gather round,
To listen to the joyful sound
Of glory's flowing stream!
Loud hallalujahs fill the earth,
And Zion's joy is in the birth
Of Christ, who doth redeem.

The Gentiles shall His glory see,
For every one shall bow the knee,
And every tongue confess;
Shall not the earth, her people say,
Bring forth a nation in a day,
Though once a wilderness?

To isles afar they shall proclaim
His mercy, and extend his fame,
Until the Lord shall fill
The earth with knowledge of his ways,
And all unite to sing his praise,
Ascending Zion's hill.

THE SAFETY OF THE CHURCH.

Deut. 33: 26, 28, 29.

Israel then shall dwell in safety,
Jacob's fountain then shall flow
Through a land of peace and plenty,
Where the corn and vineyards grow.

There the pearly dews of heaven
Drop in silence all around,
And the enemy shall even
Subject unto them be found.

Happy art thou, O thou nation!
Who is likened unto thee;
In the Lord is thy salvation,
And thy sword and shield is he.

None is like thy God, Jeshurun,
He who rideth upon high,
For thy succor, and in his own
Excellency on the sky.

THE UNITY OF THE CHURCH.

Psalm 137.

Behold you who tell
How good 'tis to dwell
With Christians united by that holy spell!
Gods grace shall descend,
Their cause to defend,
For all hearts that love him in harmony blend.

How pleasant the sight
That giveth delight,
When all of the children of God do unite,
To give God the praise
For guiding their ways
And lengthening their useful and prosperous days.

And none shall annoy,
Their peace to destroy,
But all his rich blessings their souls shall enjoy;
Though numbers be few,
The promise is true,
And blessings from heaven descend like the dew.

God's word giveth peace,
Their souls it shall bless [ness
And clothe them in robes of his own righteous-
His love shall distil
And every heart fill :
Forever they'll praise him and do his good will.

It is a blest place
Where heavenly grace [face;
Descends with the Saviour ; he shows them his
His is the command
Which ever shall stand,
Even life everlasting bestowed by his hand.

They meet in God's name;
His glory's their aim;
He fills every soul with that heavenly flame;
And when they depart,
United in heart,
They pray for that strength which the Lord will impart.

GOD'S CARE FOR HIS CHURCH.

Isa. 49: 13, 14, 15, 16.

Then sing, O ye heavens! be joyful, O earth!
Ye towering mountains, in singing break forth;
The Lord for his people has comfort and peace,
And he will have mercy: then trouble shall cease.

Then why sayest Zion the Lord will not bless,
Or he hath forgotten his vineyard to dress?
O, can the fond mother her offspring forget!
And not have compassion? O yes, she may; yet

God will not forget his own people nor leave
Them ever to wander; on him they believe;
Their name is engraven upon his right hand:
Their walls shall before him continually stand.

THE CHURCH EXHORTED TO PRAISE GOD FOR HIS MANIFOLD BLESSINGS.

117th Psalm, 31 verses.

O give thanks now to the Lord!
Let his goodness be adored;
Let the Lord's redeemed say so,
Whom he hath redeemed from woe.
Gathering them from every land,
By the power of his own hand.
Lo, they wandered far astray!
In a solitary way;
Then they cried aloud to God,
Forth he led them by his word,
From the lonely wilderness
Where they wandered in distress.
O that men would praise the Lord!—
Let his goodness be adored;

We, his children, he doth save
Wonderfully from the grave.

Longing souls were satisfied,
When they to the Lord had cried:
Goodness every soul did fill,
When they looked to Zion's hill;
Ere the city had been found,
Many were in darkness bound;
They rebelled against the Lord
And the counsels of his word;
Them with labor he brought down
Where to help them there were none,
Then to God they raised their hands,
By his power he broke their bands.
O that men would praise the Lord!
Let his goodness be adored,
Let his wondrous works be praised,
While our hearts to Him are raised.

Bless the Lord, his power is great,
He hath broken every gate:
Fools, because they have transgressed,
Are afflicted and distressed·
All their meat their souls abhor,
Near the gates of death they draw;
Then they cry again to God:
Wilt thou save us by thy word?
Then he saved them from distress,
That they might no more transgress.
He delivered by his word—
Blessed be the name of God.

O that men would praise the Lord!—
Let his goodness be adored.
We his wondrous works will praise,
The remainder of our days.

Let them offer thanks and prayer,
And with joy his works declare:
Those who go where billows sweep,
See his wonders in the deep;
He commands the stormy wind,
Then they are at their wits' end.
Stagger they like drunken men,
While the waves go down again.
Then they cry once more to God,
In their trouble; and the Lord
Speaks, and all the waves are stilled;
Their desires are fulfilled.
O that man would praise the Lord!
Let his goodness be adored,
While his wondrous works we sing,
Glory to our Heavenly King.

GOD THE CHURCH'S STRENGTH.

But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.
[Isa, 40: 31.

Lord! we here together meet,
And for thy salvation wait;
If we wait upon the Lord,
Listening to thy gracious word,

We shall mount above with wings—
Soar above all earthly things ;
Run and never weary be,
Till our Saviour's face we see.

We shall walk and never faint :
Labor strenthens every saint ;
Jesus by our side doth walk,
While of heavenly things we talk ;

And our hearts within us burn
While of Jesus Christ we learn :
Of those heavenly mansions fair
That for us he will prepare.

THE CHURCH THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

For Zion's sake will I hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as a brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth. [Isa. 62: 1.

For Zion's sake will I not hold
My peace, and for Jerusalem
I will not rest till I behold
Salvation as a burning gem.

For out of Zion shall go forth
The law of love and life divine :
Before all nations of the earth
Jerusalem shall brightly shine.

For Zion is the Lord's delight:
The Holy Spirit shall descend
And scatter all the shades of night,
And by his power he will defend.

No thing unclean shall enter in
To thee, blest city of our God;
But that highway that's free from sin
Shall lead us to thy blest abode.

A CALL FOR MORE LABORERS INTO THE VINEYARD.

Thou, O God, didst send a plentiful rain, whereby thou didst confirm thine inheritance when it was weary. Thy congregation hath dwelt therein: Thou, O God, hast prepared of thy goodness for the poor. The Lord gave the word—great was the company of those that published it.

[Psalm 68—9 : 10 11.

O God! thou hast graciously blest
And sent us a plentiful rain;
Our souls in thy presence find rest;
New strength from thy blessings we gain.

Thy people dwell safely in thee,
For all thou hast opened the door;
The fount of thy goodness is free:
Yes, thou hast prepared for the poor.

And, Lord, thou hast given thy word
To nourish the undying soul,
And many rejoiced when they heard
That faith in the Saviour made whole.

But where are thy servants, O Lord?
  And where thy laborers, where
To spread the glad tidings abroad,
  And all thy good will to declare?

The harvest now truly is great,
  The laborers yet are but few;
We pray therefore, ere 'tis too late,
  For laborers faithful and true.

O send them by whom thou wilt, send
  And gather a harvest for heaven,
And may all thy people attend
  The word thou hast graciously given.

O, give to thy messengers grace,
  That they may the whole truth declare,
Before a poor sin-fallen race,
  Now wending their way to despair.

Now, Lord, let deliverance come
  To souls that are now in their chains;
In Jesus there is enough room,
  The Lord God omnipotent reigns.

THE COMMISSION.

Preach the word. [2 Tim. 4: 2.

Go preach the word of truth and grace,
  And bid a world in Christ believe:
For all shall live who seek his face,
  And all be saved who Christ receive.
O, high commission of the Lord—
To preach the everlasting word!

The word is like a two-edged sword,
  Dividing whatsoe'er it will:
Christ is the Everlasting Word,
  In him is power all sin to kill.
Preach Christ and him once crucified;
For our redemption he hath died.

The word is true and must prevail,
  Though heaven and earth may pass away:
The word of God can never fail,
  But will endure through endless day.
Here is our sure foundation laid,
On Christ who hath our ransom paid.

Then in his strength thy mission fill—
  Gird on the armor of the Lord,
He will reveal his gracious will;
  Do thou according to his word,
And Christ shall be thy faithful friend,
He will with thee go to the end.

ASKING FOR THE WITNESS.

And the Lord looked upon him and said, Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: And he said unto him, Oh my Lord, wherewith shall I save Israel? Behold, my family is poor in Manasseah, and I am the least in my father's house. [Judg. 6—14, 15.

O Lord! on me why dost thou look,
And say, go thou in this thy might?
Why talkest thou beneath the oak,
With one so feble in thy sight?

Wherewith shall I my people save?
Or put the enemy to flight?
My people dwell in yonder cave,
Secluded from the noonday light.

Behold my family is poor,
And I'm the least of father's house;
But if thou wilt be with me sure,
Then I will pay to thee my vows.

If grace I've found now in thy sight,
Let it be proved 'tis from the Lord;
Then in thy name I'll go and smite,
And conquer with the mighty sword.

THE WITNESS GIVEN.

And when Gideon perceived that he was an angel of the Lord, Gideon said, Alas, O Lord God ! for because I have seen an angel of the Lord face to face. And the Lord said unto him, Peace be unto thee : fear not–thou shalt not die. [Judg. 6—22,23.

Alas for me ! for I have had
  The witness of the living God :
But, "Peace to thee ; fear not ?" he said,
  "Thou shalt not die !" (O blessed word !)

For when to him the gift I brought
  Beneath that lofty spreading oak,
He gave the witness that I sought
  When there arose the fire and smoke.

The Lord now surely is with me :
  I will not fear what man can do ;
The Lord is good—his work shall be
  Employment of my days, tho' few.

I've listed in the little band,
  And soon the battle will be won :
We cry aloud, trumpet in hand,
  Sword of the Lord and Gideon.

PREPARING FOR THE SERVICE OF GOD.

For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the Lord, and to do it, and to teach in Israel statutes and judgements. [Ezra 7—10.

Dear Savior, come in thy blest way,
And seal my heart forever thine:
O wash my sins and guilt away,
And fill me with thy love divine.

Give grace that I may well prepare
My heart to seek and do thy will;
That I may thy blest truth declare,
What thou hast promised to fulfil.

Now take me, Lord, and make me clean,
I can do nothing without thee;
'Tis by thy grace that I have been
Assisted from thy wrath to flee.

O Lord, accomplish thy great work
That thou hast in my heart begun;
Destroy the powers of sin that lurk
In me, and let thy will be done.

Let all my thoughts be raised on high,
And let my conversation be
(Watched by the never-sleeping eye)
In heaven, from whence we look for thee.

This is the way of holiness
For all the ransomed of the Lord,
And all its paths are paths of peace,
To lead the soul up to its God.

A PRAYER FOR THE SEALING POWER.

Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar; and he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away and thy sin purged. Also I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I, send me. [Isa. 6: 6, 7, 8.

High on a gracious throne of white
  The Lord shall ever reign:
He is a never-failing light
  To all the heavenly train.

Around his glorious temple stands,
  With seraphims above,
A multitude of angel bands,
  All filled with perfect love.

But can I stand before his face,
  And all his glory see?
Can I—the vilest of the race?—
  If not, then "woe is me!"

Lord, from thy sacred altar take
  A living coal of fire,
And touch my heart, that it may make
  Iniquity expire.

That when I hear thy blessed voice,
  Saying, "Whom shall I send?"
I may with all my heart rejoice,
  And to thy word attend.

O gracious Lord, come in thy power,
And win the victory ;
And take my heart, from this glad hour—
"Here Lord am I : send me."

That I may spend what thou hast given
According to thy word,
And point the way that leads to heaven.
Through faith in Christ, the Lord.

May sinners hear, and turn to thee
And give thee all the praise;
O let us thy salvation see,
And walk in all thy ways.

THE WORK OF GOD HIS SERVANTS' DELIGHT.

For though I am free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. [1 Cor. 9: 19.

I love thy work, my God, my King,
No other shall my hands employ ;
No other can such pleasure bring,
Or fill immortal souls with joy.

Nor sordid gold, nor empty fame
Shall lure me while I see the prize,
Till I that peaceful rest obtain,
And in my Savior's image rise.

Prepare me Lord to do thy will,
  Transform me by renewing grace:
May I with all my powers fulfil
  Thy word in my appointed place.

And daily may my soul aspire,
  To be more like my master here,
And beaming with celestial fire,
  Reflect his blessed image clear.

Then sinners now in darkness bound,
  Shall see the light, and turn to God,
With joy to hear the gospel sound,
  And glorify our blessed Lord,

O speed the day when every voice
  Shall join in praising Christ the Lamb.
And every soul in him rejoice,
  And bless our great Redeemer's name.

THE HEAVENLY VISION.

To reveal his son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood. [Gal. 1: 16.

Hark, Hark, my soul! what means that sound,
  That comes o'er hill and dale?
It is the cry of none around,
Nor those in chains of iron bound,
  Who sadly now bewail.

But lo, 'tis from the heathen land,
  For freedom they implore,
From sin and Satan—fatal band—
Oh! who will lend a helping hand
  To break that fiendish power?

The Son of God himself unfurled
  The banner of the cross,
To save a lost and ruined world,
Who were from Eden's garden hurled,
  And thus regain their loss.

Wilt thou, O then, who by his grace
  Redeemed and saved from sin,
Still hide the gospel from their face,
And leave them in their dire disgrace,
  When we their souls may win?

Confer no more with flesh and blood:
  Thy Master's call obey,
He went about thus, doing good—
He prayed and gave the needy food;
  Go thou, and GIVE and PRAY.

I go, I go, farewell dear friends,
  With you I cannot stay;
Lo, now the heavenly breeze descends,
An angel o'er the water bends,
  To waft me on my way.

THE SAVIOR'S LAST COMMAND.

Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. [Matt. 28: 19, 20.

Happy art thou if called to stand,
Between the living and the dead;
If thou obey the blest command,
A crown shall shine above thy head.

Blessed, if from the ways of sin
A sinner turneth to the Lord;
If thou from death a soul dost win,
Assisted by the grace of God.

Go in the strength of Jesus' name,
And spread the gospel o'er the earth;
Glad tidings to a world proclaim,
Salvation through a Savior's birth.

In Jesus' strength thou canst not fail.
He will go with thee to the end;
The gates of hell cannot prevail,
Jehovah will his cause defend.

The stone that from the mountain's brow
Removed by no frail mortal hand,
Has rolled through many ages now,
And will with power fill the land.

O may that welcome day soon rise
Triumphant o'er each pagan isle,
When all shall turn their longing eyes,
To him in whom was found no guile.

HUMILITY.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent, greater than he that sent him. [John 13: 16.

O God, if we by thee are sent
May we be humble and content,
To do thy righteous will;
We pray thou wouldst our lives protect,
And may we not thy work neglect,
'Till we our mission fill.

And may that grace which thou hast given
To us, be used as precious leaven,
In thy great work below;
The stone that with thy powerful hand,
Escaped the mount, by thy command,
Shall crush the deadly foe.

The gospel with its light shall shed
A beam of glory, and shall spread,
If we obey thy word;
While each shall help the other on,
Till we in heaven with thee sit down,
Our Master and our Lord.

FERVENT ZEAL FOR THE CAUSE OF GOD.

Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might.
[Eccl. 9: 10.

Dear Savior, while the moments fly,
Whate'er my hand shall find to do,
With thy abundant grace will I,
With all my might thy work pursue.

Give me thy strength, and naught I fear:
The love of Christ constraineth me;
Thy glory shall on earth appear,
And every eye thy work shall see.

Let not my life be dear to me,
So dear as my Redeemer's name;
For with thy love so full and free,
I can endure all toil or shame.

In vain do earth and sin oppose,
For Christ is mighty to redeem,
And he will conquer all his foes,
And I at last shall reign with him.

Then come my blessed Savior, come,
No more from thee my soul would part,
Conduct me to my happy home,
To dwell forever where thou art.

But O, my soul with patience wait,
'Till thou hast done thy Master's will,
Thy labors shall not terminate,
'Till thou his righteous word fulfil.

THE FAITHFUL PASTOR.

Besides those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches. [2 Cor. 11: 28.

How doth the faithful Pastor's heart,
  With bitter anguish bleed,
When from the fold the sheep depart,
  That he was wont to feed.

How many anxious moments pass
  In weeping, and in prayers,
He fades and withers like the grass,
  Before his daily cares,

He cares that they should holy be,
  And live in peace and love;
That they their Savior's face may see,
  And reign at last above.

He oft exhorts them in Christ's stead,
  That they be reconciled
To God, who bountifully fed,
  And on their labors smiled.

He, like the Savior, spends his days
  In doing good to all;
While love directs him in his ways,
  He surely ne'er can fall.

THE REWARD OF THE FAITHFUL.

He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him. [Psalm 126: 6.

Thou servant beloved, go forth on thy mission,
Nor rest thee, nor weary, till Jesus shall come,
For soon thou shalt reap an eternal fruition,
When angels in triumph shall welcome you home.

For time is now swiftly the period winging,
When all of thy labors shall end with thy years,
And thou shalt rejoicing return again, bringing
The fruits of the field thou hast watered with tears.

See yonder above thee, an angel now holding
A starry magnificent crown for thy head;
And as the brief years of thy life are unfolding,
The Lord shall protect thee, and thou shalt be fed.

TRUST IN GOD RECOMMENDED.

Psalm 42.

How panteth, Lord, my soul for thee,
And thirsteth for the living God:
When shall I come his face to see,
And listen to his peaceful word?
My tears have been by night and day,
My meat while seeking for thy word;
Why they continually say,
Now unto me, Where is thy God?
When I remember, Lord, this thing,

I pour out my whole soul in me,
For I had gone with them to sing,
And to the house that's built for thee.
O why art thou cast down, my soul?
And why disquieted in me?
Hope thou in God; I shall be whole,
And praise him when his face I see.
Deep waters calleth unto deep,
And loud is heard the water's spout,
While o'er my head thy billows sweep,
And all thy waves toss me about.
Yet will the Lord, while it is day
Command his loving kindness here.
And in the night his songs shall be
With me, and he shall hear my prayer.
I will say unto God, my rock,
O why hast thou forgotten me?
Why go I mourning while they mock?
Because I fear the enemy.
Why art thou now my soul cast down?
And why disquieted within?
Hope thou in God: him will I own,
For I shall praise my God again.

THE SAME CONTINUED.

Judge me, O Lord, and plead my cause,
Against ungodly nations round;
Deliver from unjust men's laws,
And let my strength in thee be found.
O Lord, why dost thou cast me off?
Why go I mourning all the day?
Why doth the enemy now scoff?

Where is God? they say to me,
Send out thy light and truth to me,
Let them my soul to God now bring;
To God my exceeding joy, yea,
Upon the harp I'll praise and sing.
O why cast down now, O my soul!
And why art thou disquieted?
Hope in thy God, I shall be whole,
And praise Him whom my soul hath led.

BURDEN OF SOUL FOR SINNERS.

I beheld the transgressors, and was grieved, because they kept not thy word. [Psalm 119, 158.

Behold I transgressors with grief,
Because they have kept not thy word;
In slumbers I find no relief,
My spirit within me is stirred.

They've slighted thine offer of grace,
Refusing thy message of love;
They turn from beholding thy face,
And strive not to enter above.

Their souls are delighted with sin,
In sinning they spend all their days,
'Tis sweeter than honey to them;
They have never learned wisdom's ways.

From them, thy salvation is far,
They seek not thy will to obey;
And when one would speak, they're for war,
For thou shalt not govern, they say.

For vainly they boast in their pride,
  They will not seek after the Lord,
They think not of Christ crucified,
  In thought they dwell never on God,

Their mouths filled with cursing and fraud,
  Their tongues always speak against thee,
They say they're forgotten by God,
  And that the Lord never will see.

But Lord, all their sins thou hast known,
  Our ways are all known unto thee,
Thou hearest the poor when they groan,
  And settest the prisoner free.

O Lord, let deliverance come,
  And may Satan's kingdom now fall,
For Jesus has said there is room,
  His table is spread for us all.

PUNISHMENT OF THE WICKED.

Behold, all ye that kindle a fire, that compass yourselves about with sparks : walk in the light of your fire, and in the sparks that ye have kindled. This shall ye have of my hand; ye shall lie down in sorrow. [Isa. 50—11.

Behold all ye nations that kindle a fire,
That walk in the ways of your own heart's desire :
Now walk in the light of your own kindled flame,
And travel the road that will lead you to shame.

But what shall ye have from the hand of the Lord ?
Ye'll lie down in sorrow as your just reward.
Ye've slighted the mercy he offered to you,
And follow the broad way which many pursue.

But if ye repent not, God then will destroy,
For ye might have tasted the fruits of his joy.
Ye would not come unto the Lord, that ye might
All see his eternal and glorious light.

THE PROSPERITY OF THE RIGHTEOUS.

And he sought God in the days of Zechariah, who had understanding in the visions of God : and as long as he sought the Lord, God made him to prosper. [2 Chron. 26: 5.

Will ye hearken ? O ye nation,
To the great and mighty Lord,
Seek him in your habitation ?
Seek the true and living God ?

Let your idols fall before him,
Cast them from your sight away.
Raise your voices, and adore him,
Bow before his throne to-day.

Thou shalt prosper while thou keepest
All the words of his command ;
But, when thou thy treasure heapest,
Thou shalt fall before his hand.

He doth every needed blessing,
Bountifully on thee shower.
All that thou art now possessing,
Is through his almighty power.

THE VANITY OF HUMAN GLORY.

Who hath taken this counsel against Tyre, the crowning city whose merchants are princes, whose traffickers are the honorable of the earth? The Lord of hosts hath purposed it, to stain the pride of all glory, and to bring into contempt all the honorable of the earth. [Isa. 23: 8, 9.

Who hath brought the crowning city,
With its merchandise and gain,
Thus to languish, without pity?
All her mighty men are slain.

This the Lord of hosts hath purposed,
Thus to stain all earthly pride,
Bringing to derision thou most
Honorable of earth beside.

Ah! is this your joyous city,
That hath been from ancient day?
Surely thou hast not had pity,
Now thou shalt be driven away.

Oh! the pride of human glory,
And the knowledge of the world,
Pass on, like a pleasing story,
Quickly out of sight then hurled.

SELF RIGHTEOUSNESS CONDEMNED.

For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the Scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven. [Matt. 5: 20.

Except your righteousness exceed
That of the Pharisees and Scribes,
Before the judge ye'll guilty plead,
Before all nations, tongues and tribes.

For they their heavy burdens bind,
Those burdens grievous to be borne,
Them on men's shoulders they've confined,
And made their poor sad hearts to mourn.

They shut the gates of heaven against
Themselves by pride, that awful sin;
They make long prayers for a pretence
And hinder those who would go in.

They often fast, and often pray,
And greatly boast in deeds of fame,
Of their possessions, tithes they pay,
And get themselves a glorious name.

Like whited sepulchres they are,
That beautiful appear indeed;
They outwardly are very fair,
Their righteousness in vain they plead.

Within is base hypocrisy,
To cover their unrighteousness,
All manner of iniquity,
Full of extortion and excess.

Self-righteousness will prove at last
  Like filthy rags, for covering ;
For when the day of life is past,
  The soul to shame it sure will bring.

Unless by faith ye're clothed upon,
  With Christ's pure robe of righteousness,
To that bright world where he hath gone,
  To reign eternally, to bless—

Ye shall in no case enter in,
  To dwell with Him in heaven above,
For in his kingdom there's no sin,
  But all is everlasting love.

SALVATION THROUGH OBEDIENCE AND FAITH.

And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.. [Matt. 18: 3.

Sinner, thou art far from heaven,
  By thy oft repeated crimes ;
Wilt thou ever be forgiven ?
  Dost thou not reflect by times ?

Lo ! thy sins are like a mountain ;
  By thy pride and unbelief,
Thou hast scorned the healing fountain,
  That wonld give thy soul relief.

Hast thou utterly rejected
  All the offers of his grace?
Wilt thou not by God protected,
  Seek in heaven a resting place?

For except thou art converted,
  Turning from thy sins to God,
(For thy ways are now perverted,)
  Thou shalt never see the Lord.

Wilt thou not then be obedient,
  And be humble as a child?
Thinkest thou thy ways expedient?
  Satan hath thy heart beguiled.

To obey is recommended,
  Better than all sacrifice;
God to thee hath condescended,
  Why shouldst thou his grace despise?

He hath promised to protect thee,
  If thou wouldst obey his voice,
And he never will neglect thee;
  If thou wilt have Christ thy choice.

He will be thy father ever,
  He will no good thing withhold,
Nothing can him from thee sever,
  While thou art within the fold.

THE SIN OF OMISSION.

How readest thou! [Luke 10: 26,

That sacred voice! how oft ye hear;
Its echo falleth now
With dread upon your guilty ear;
It saith: How readest thou?

Why tempt ye God? for by his word,
Ye shall be judged at last.
Why on your heads displeasure draw,
Until your life is past?

His holy word with scorn ye read,
Or reckless pass it by.
That solemn truth ye never heed:
That ye were born to die.

And when ye read the word wherein
The great command is given,
Ye justify yourselves in sin,
And shut your souls from heaven.

No longer slight abounding grace,
Bestowed by mercy's hand;
But with your soul, and might, embrace
The Savior's blest command.

Then ye shall have eternal peace,
The sacred promise given;
For sin and sorrow then shall cease:
They cannot enter heaven.

DANGER OF DELAY.

While I am coming, another steppeth down before me.
[John, 5: 7.

Down by Bethesda's healing pool,
Where multitudes await
The moving of the waters cool,
There's one that is too late.

In wretchedness he moveth slow,
But knoweth not his fate,
For others oft before him go,
And then he is too late.

O, sinner there is help for thee,
Whatever be thy fate;
But if thou woulds't salvation see,
Come, ere it is too late.

Ye trembling souls, who would delay,
This truth well contemplate,
For if you tarry long, you may
Forever be too late.

Then, when the Righteous Judge on high
Shall shut the golden gate,
In great amazement ye will cry,
Alas! I am *too late*.

THE CONDITIONS OF SALVATION.

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. [Rom. 10: 13.

Salvation is of God,
It cometh from above,
It saves us from the second death,
And fills with Jesus' love.

'Tis not a name to live,
Or form of worship fair,
That can secure immortal life,
Or save us from despair.

'Tis offered now for all,
And he that will, may come
And find supplies at mercy's fount,
Then enter heaven—his home.

But he that will refuse
Forgiveness of his sin,
And slight the message of his love,
Can never enter in.

Great God, repentance give,
Renew our evil heart,
Forgive us, that we may forsake
And from each idol part.

By faith may we secure
The great atonement made;
Rejoice and wonder at the Lord,
That hath our ransom paid.

THE VOICE OF GOD

My son, give me thine heart, aud let thine eyes observe my ways. [Prov. 23: 26.

Hast thou not heard that gentle voice
That speaks when thou art all alone?
It bids thee come, in Christ rejoice,
And hasten to his gracious throne.

Come, in thy youthful, joyous days,
Ere care and sorrow mar thy brow,
And learn to walk in wisdom's ways;
Hark! hear his voice; he saith: come now.

"Give me thine heart," he saith to thee,
And I will give thee rest above;
O take my yoke, and learn of me,
And thou shalt know a Savior's love.

How happy, then, thy life would be,
To feel that Christ is all thine own;
And that his blood is spilt for thee,
And doth for all thy sins atone.

PIOUS EXAMPLE.

Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem one-and-thirty years. For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was yet young, he began to seek after the God of David, his father; and in the twelfth year, he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem from the high places, and the groves, and the carved images, and the molten images. [II Chron. 34: 1, 3.

Behold a prince, a youthful prince,
  Began to seek the living God ;
O, will not this thy heart convince,
  That thou may'st turn and seek the Lord ?

Thou hast the word to guide the way,
  With all the counsels of the just ;
Then turn to God, his word obey,
  And tread those idols in the dust.

Turn unto God, with all thy heart,
  With all thy soul, with all thy might,
And never from his ways depart,
  And he will give thee peace and light.

Thou shalt be guided by his hand,
  And walk with him in wisdom's ways,
And in his strength thy feet shall stand,
  If thou wilt serve him all thy days.

His cause thy youthful days demand,
  With all thy vigor, strength and power,
To break the power of Satan's band,
  Then God shall reign forevermore.

Go in his strength, and thou shalt be
A blessing to thy fellow-men;
And God will surely be with thee,
For with the good he's ever been.

And many shall in him rejoice,
That thou wast sent to them in love,
And that they ever heard thy voice,
When pointing them to Christ above.

And when thy labor here is done,
Then thou shalt enter thy reward;
The battle fought, the victory won,
To reign forever with thy Lord.

FREE SALVATION.

Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked: but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die. [Ezekiel, 33: 11.

Did thy Redeemer die in vain?
Ah, say not so, thou mortal man!
The soul is precious in his sight,
Salvation is his chief delight.

He has no pleasure in the death
Of those who curse him with their breath,
But would the souls of all men save
From sin, which doth mankind enslave.

The all-atoning blood is free;
It can atone for you and me;
O, turn then, sinner, to the Lord,
Implore the merit of his blood.

He'll free you from all guilt and shame,
Ask but in faith in Jesus' name,
He will on thee his grace bestow,
And thou shalt all his glories know.

THE GREAT SALVATION.

For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every trangression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward; How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him.
[Heb. 2: 2, 3.

The Savior began to proclaim
Salvation himself unto all;
For this cause from heaven he came,
To rescue our souls from the fall.

His works were confirmed unto all,
By many who joyfully heard;
His children obeying the call,
Went everywhere, preaching the word.

Salvation so full and so free,
Flowed forth from Emanuel's side:
Who could for the sinner but he,
So great a salvation provide.

If God by the prophets of old,
  Spake unto the children of men,
And steadfast remained what was told,
  By angels who spake to them then,

And those who the word disbelieved,
  Were chastened and scattered abroad,
And every transgression received
  A just recompense of reward,

Shall we who neglect this free grace,
  Now offered to us by our Lord,
Escape a most fearful disgrace,
  The justice of Almighty God?

CONTRITION.

Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. [Matt. 8: 2.

O Lord, how shall a feeble worm
  Approach the throne of grace?
How shall I from my sorrows turn,
  And seek a Savior's face?

I'm naked, without friends I roam,
  Amid the furious storm;
In this cold world I have no home,
  No fire to cheer and warm.

But thou hast bid me come to thee,
  With all my sins and guilt;
I know thou wilt not turn from me,
  For thou canst if thou wilt,

Apply thy blood and make me clean,
  And fill me with thy peace;
My sin-sick soul restore again,
  And clothe with righteousness.

THE RICHES OF GOD'S GRACE.

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich. [2 Cor. 8: 9.

Ye know the boundless love and grace,
  Of Jesus Christ who died to save
The lost and ruined human race,
  Whom to redeem his life he gave.

Though he was rich, poor he became,
  That through his poverty we might
Be rich in faith, and in his name
  Find all our comfort and delight.

If we are hungry he will feed;
  For he has spread a royal feast:
If we are blind, he sure will lead,
  And guide his poor invited guest,

If we are naked, he'll prepare
  For us a robe of righteousness;
Then we that royal feast may share,
  And sit where Christ his children bless.

Then loose my tongue, that I may sing
  The riches of his sovereign grace,
And all my thanks and offerings bring,
  To him who hath prepared my place.

PRAYING FOR DELIVERANCE.

If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me
[Psalm 66— 18.

O, give me strength, my blessed Lord,
  To break this band from off my soul;
This yoke of sin so much abhorred,
  That daily would my heart control!

For Lord, I know if in my heart,
  I do regard iniquity,
Or from thy ways my feet depart,
  Thou wilt not hear and answer me.

O, may my soul by thy free grace
  This moment sink into thy will,
That I may yet behold thy face,
  And all my vows to thee fulfil.

Then, surely thou wilt hear my voice,
  When offering up my humble prayer.
Then, O my soul, in God rejoice,
  Who showeth mercy everywhere.

THE SINNER'S PLEA.

Therefore I will look unto the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me. [Micah 7: 7.

Lord, unto thee we humbly look,
And will for thy salvation wait;
For thou hast promised in thy book,
That thou wouldst hear for Jesus' sake.

My God will hear me when I pray;
Then will I come, in humble prayer,
And bow before him every day,
And meet my blessed Savior there.

And when before the mercy seat
I come, with this, my only plea,
I throw myself at Jesus' feet,
And cry, "my Lord hath died for me."

I'll wait before the throne of grace
Till Jesus deigns to stoop and bless;
My longing soul shall see his face,
Rejoicing in his righteousness.

DELIVERANCE THROUGH FAITH.

Depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity; for the Lord hath heard the voice of my weeping.
The Lord hath heard my supplication; the Lord will receive my prayer. [Ps. 6: 8, 9.

Depart, ye foolish, far from me,
Ye workers of iniquity;
Ye who have sought my soul to slay,
In secret lurking by the way,
Your mouths are filled with vain deceit,
And mischief to your tongue is sweet.

Give ear now to my voice, O Lord,
And hearken to my cry, my God;
Arise, O Lord; for me awake,
Thou wilt receive for mercy's sake;
I'll lay me down in peace, for thou
Makest me dwell in safety now.

The Lord hath heard my weeping voice,
In him my soul can now rejoice;
My feeble prayer he will receive,
For in his name, I still believe:
I will sing to the Lord, for he
Hath dealt in mercy unto me.

REJOICING THROUGH DELIVERANCE.

I will be glad and rejoice in thy mercy; for thou has considered my trouble; thou hast known my soul in adversity; [Ps. 31: 7.

God of love, thy every blessing
Calls upon me to rejoice:
Now my soul thy peace possessing,
Gladly strives to raise her voice.

Once my years were spent with sighing,
And my life was spent with grief;
Thou, O God, my faith was trying;
Now in thee I find relief.

For thou hast my woes considered,
Thou hast known my soul in pain;
Thy great mercy hath delivered,
I've not trusted thee in vain.

PRAYER THE CHANNEL OF ALL GOOD

Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established. Prov. 16: 3.

Commit thy works all to the Lord,
No more upon thyself rely,
God's holy spirit and his word,
Shall all thy strength and wants supply.

Soon as the morning sun shall pour
  Its rays on this terrestrial sphere,
Arise and humbly fall before
  Thy maker, who thy voice shall hear.

Ask for that strength that shall abide
  When sorrows gather o'er thy soul ;
That from the tempest thou mayest hide,
  When high the stormy billows roll.

Pray for that grace to suffer on,
  With thy dear Lord, while here below ;
That thou mayst reign where he is gone,
  And all his heavenly glories know.

He shall sustain thee in the hour
  When this thy earthly house decays,
And crown thee then, with strength and power,
  Eternally his name to praise.

That glory, yet is not revealed,
  But, when aside the veil is drawn,
Those blessed truths shall be unsealed,
  When we, ascending, hail that morn.

THE OFFICE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

And when he is come he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment. [John 16: 8.

Oh who can know the immortal mind,
  That penetrates the heart of man ;
The length and depth is undefined,
  Beyond a mortal's power to scan.

From early youth's unclouded morn,
  And down life's dark and weary night,
The Holy Spirit sheds upon
  Our path a ray of sacred light.

And when our feet abroad would stray
  In paths of sin, that Spirit's nigh,
To point us to the narrow way,
  That leads to blest abodes on high.

The Gospel with its trumpet voice,
  Has sounded often in our ears,
And bids us make the happy choice,
  Renouncing all our doubts and fears.

But man in vain may preach the word,
  It ne'er will reach the sinner's heart,
Unless the spirit of the Lord,
  Should through rich grace that light impart.

But when the Comforter is come,
  Reproving all the world of sin,
Confusion fills the mind with gloom,
  And dark forebodings reign within.

Come, heavenly spirit, from above,
  We will no more thy goodness grieve,
Nor more refuse that melting love,
  That us from our sins retrieve.

If we through Christ are reconciled,
  And by our faith in him made free,
God then will own us for his child,
  And by his grace we'll welcome thee.

Come, take possession of my soul;
  O stay and make thy dwelling here;
Erect thy temple, take the whole,
  And reign without a rival near.

Then shall my soul, inspired with zeal,
  Proclaim redeeming love abroad,
While sinners, who their guilt shall feel,
  Shall turn repenting to the Lord.

THE DECLARATION OF THE YOUNG CONVERT.

And she said to the king, It was a true report that I heard in mine own land of thy acts and of thy wisdom. Howbeit I believed not the words, until I came, and mine eyes had seen it; and behold the half was not told me; thy wisdom and prosperity exceedeth the fame which I heard.
[Kings 10: 7, 8.

O, while the heralds of the Lord
  Proclaim the word that he has given,
And seeking, not their own reward,
  But pointing sinners up to heaven.

How doth the unbelieving heart
  Reject the dear Redeemer's word ;
Believing not, until they start
  To prove the sayings they have heard.

But when their Savior's face they view,
  And all his loveliness behold,
They say : Yes, the report was true,
  But Oh, the half was never told.

His goodness far exceeds his fame,
  Or any thing that man can tell;
For living faith in Jesus' name
  Hath saved my soul, and all is well.

His word will guide my feet aright,
  And lead me in the heavenly way :
He is the way, the truth, the light ;
  My feet from him shall never stray.

He gives me rest, he gives me peace,
  And Christ is all I want below ;
His praise I'll sing, and never cease,
  His goodness I will ever show,

By faith in him, I stand secure,
  Then let the rain in torrents come :
If built on Christ I shall endure,
  And rest at last with him at home.

But I will praise him while I stay
  On earth, then join with saints above.
And praise him through eternal day,
  And sing anew the song of love.

TRUSTING GOD FOR MERCY.

Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions; according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness sake, O Lord. Good and upright is the Lord, therefore will he teach sinners the way. [Psalms 25: 7, 8.

Remember not, Lord, all the sins of my youth,
My many transgressions against divine truth :
But in thy rich mercy remember thou me,
For the sake of thy goodness, O Lord, let it be !

How oft I've forsaken the guide that was given.
And turning I wandered, and sought not for
heaven ;
But now, thou hast called me, and I will obey,
Away from salvation my feet shall ne'er stray.

How good and how upright is Jesus, our Lord
He therefore will ever teach sinners the word.
The meek, he will guide them, and teach in
their youth,
The paths of the Lord, are all mercy and truth.

THE PATH OF LIFE.

Thou wilt show me the path of life; in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore. [Ps. 16: 11.

Thou wilt show me the path of life,
Where I may walk and live;
For in thy kingdom is no strife,
Peace freely thou dost give.

Thy presence is my fullest joy,
I want no joy beside;
Thy labors are my my blest employ,
Let me dwell near thy side.

At thy right hand are pleasures free,
For all for evermore;
O may I ever live to thee,
And thy great name adore.

And when my days on earth are past,
And all my work is done,
I'll reach my journey's end at last,
And enter heaven my home.

THE TRUTH THAT MAKETH FREE.

Every one that is of the truth, heareth my voice. Pilate saith unto him—What is truth?

Oh, what is truth? God's word is truth;
Now let its sanctifying power
Direct the heart of every youth,
And keep them through life's darkest hour.

O, may the spirit of the Lord,
  Come now, to lead our youthful feet
In thy commands, exceeding broad,
  Where truth and mercy gently meet.

The truth can make us free indeed,
  And then we shall be free from sin;
By faith we are called Abram's seed,
  We through the promise enter in.

Christ Jesus is the truth, the way
  That leads us to that blest abode;
He is our guide through life's short day,
  Our Friend and Brother on the road.

FAITH THE POWER THAT OVERCOMES THE WORLD.

Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God? [1 John 5; 5.

Dear Savior, to thy side we flee,
Escaping sin and misery,
Surrounded by a world of strife,
Amid the toil and cares of life.

But with that love that maketh free,
We gladly come by faith to thee;
Thou art our refuge: in thy name
We hide ourselves from guilt and shame.

In thee we safely may repose,
Secure from all our hidden foes.
Thou art our head and captain sure,
Of our salvation, make us pure.

Lead us to that immortal fount,
And to the top of Pisgah's mount,
That we may view the promised land,
While on the mountain's top we stand,

DESIRING TO BE MORE LIKE CHRIST.

But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy,
[James 3: 17.

Give me that wisdom from above,
That is first pure, then peaceable,
And gentle, full of fruits, of love,
With all that grace desirable,

To make my heart a temple pure,
Where universal love may reign,
Where true religion may endure,
My steps to guide, my soul sustain.

I yield myself and all to God,
To live for him and for his cause,
In righteousness to serve the Lord,
And peaceably maintain his laws.

I would before thy footstool bow
With gratitude, for blessings given,
And humbly pray, that thou wouldst now,
Just now prepare my heart for heaven.

UNWAVERING FAITH IN GOD'S PROMISES.

For the which cause I also suffer these things; nevertheless, I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day. [2 Timothy 1: 12.

O Lord, we know in whom we trust,
And pray to thee in faith,
To keep us humble in the dust,
And faithful unto death.

Thou art our help in time of need,
When every other power
Has failed us, then to thee we plead,
In life's most fearful hour.

Thou art our joy, when on the board
The plenteous feast is spread;
We humbly ask a blessing poured,
On this our daily bread.

When we sit down and when we rise,
In faith we'll look to thee,
That we may run and win the prize,
Which at the end we see.

And when on earth our race is o'er,
  Our prayer shall change to praise,
Where sin and sorrow come no more,
  To cloud those heavenly rays.

THE RENEWED HEART.

Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new.
2 Cor. 5: 17.

If any man be in the Lord,
  Behold all things are new,
His soul goes out in prayer to God,
  That he may swift pursue.

No more in the ways of death
  His feet with pleasure tread,
But praising God with every breath,
  His soul with love is fed.

Once he was blind, but now he sees
  The glory of the Lord;
And now upon his bended knees,
  Pours out his soul to God.

Once he was dead, but now he lives
  To praise his Savior's name;
Himself unto the Lord he gives,
  And owns his rightful claim.

Once he was lost, but now is found
By him who doth redeem;
Once he was deaf, but now the sound
Of love is sweet to him.

Once he was poor, but now is rich
In faith, and hope, and love,
And all those gracious blessings, which
Are sent from heaven above.

Once he was naked, but he now
Is clothed with righteousness;
He joyfully performs the vow,
He made when in distress.

His hopes, his joys, his aims are new;
Old things are passed away;
He gives the praise to whom 'tis due,
Nor wishes to delay.

REJOICING IN HOPE.

It is not expedient for me doubtless to glory: I will come to visions and relations of the Lord [2 Cor. 12: 1.
For though I would desire to glory, I shall not be a fool; for I will say the truth: but now I forbear, lest any man should think of me above that which he seeth me to be, or that he heareth of me. [2 Cor. 12: 6.

Once when my soul in darkness bound
Was struggling for the light
No human aid on earth was found,
To rescue me from night.

But God's own arm outstretched, did save;
  He raised my thoughts above,
Then to my drooping spirit gave
  The fulness of his love.

And then it was my spirit heard
  That sweet and loving voice,
That spake that all-prevailing word,
  And bade my heart rejoice.

I saw my Savior on the tree
  Between the earth and heaven;
I saw him dying there for me,
  That I might be forgiven.

Again, I saw him on the throne,
  At the right hand of God;
I heard him plead for me alone,
  Through his atoning blood.

I saw the Father smile, and knew
  That plea was heard above;
Then quick the Holy Spirit flew,
  The witness of his love.

And to my happy spirit gave
  The earnest of that rest;
Yes, Jesus Christ hath power to save;
  I knew that I was blest.

I will this blessed truth declare;
But lest ye think me vain,
I will awhile my words forbear,
But, glory to His name.

LIFE AND IMMORTALITY.

And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized. [Acts 9: 18.

Man in darkness weeps alone,
And the past a mystery lies,
With the future all unknown,
Thickly hidden from his eyes,
Till the Spirit from above,
Sends a ray of sacred light,
Filling all the soul with love,
Then the blind receiveth sight.

Then the past in beauty stands,
Well arrayed in truth divine;
Through the future's golden sands,
Opening fields of glory shine.
Hope and faith shall then prevail
O'er the shades of gathering gloom,
And the soul her sweets inhale,
Where immortal flowers bloom.

THE YOUNG CONVERT'S INVITATION.

Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.
And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see.
John 1; 45, 46.

Come ye sinners, we have found him
Of whom Moses in the law
Wrote: he bade us come around him,
And his heavenly face we saw.

Yes, 'tis Jesus, son of Joseph,
The despised, poor Nazarene;
He of whom Esaias, the prophet
Wrote, that should the world redeem.

He is mighty to deliver,
And to save from every sin;
He our wise and gracious giver,
Gave himself our souls to win.

He is surely God's annointed,
Sent to heal the broken heart;
He hath been by God appointed,
All these blessings to impart.

Ask no questions, unbeliever;
We have told the truth to thee.
Think ye him a bold deceiver?
Stop no longer; come and see.

He will fill your soul with glory,
Clothe you in a robe of white;
Then you'll tell the pleasing story,
How he brought you into light.

Come, poor sinner, stop no longer,
Christ is knocking at the door;
Will ye perish still with hunger,
While there's plenty yet in store?

He will give thee bread of heaven,
He will ever dwell with thee;
All thy sins shall be forgiven,
If thou wilt but come and see.

PROFESSING CHRIST BEFORE THE WORLD.

Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. [Acts 4: 10.

Oh, why stand ye all here,
With amazement and fear,
While ye witness the deed that is done?
Be it known unto you,
And all Israel too,
That in Jesus this power is alone,

For it is through his name,
That I am what I am,
I will own him my Savior and King,—

He whom ye crucified,
And whom ye have denied.
True salvation to my soul did bring.

O, ye gave him the cup,
But my God raised him up,
To relieve and deliver my soul:
Brought by his mighty hand,
Now before you I stand,
A true witness that Christ can make whole.

I will praise then his name,
And will spread broad his fame,
For the mercy he's shown unto me;
Verily he is good:
He will wash in his blood,
All poor sinners who to him will flee.

He will turn none away
Who his call will obey;
He hath freely salvation prepared,
And therefore if ye'll come,
There is plenty of room,
For this truth his own words have declared.

He will save you from sin,
And will bid you come in,
To that glorious mansion above;
Then aloud ye will raise
Your glad voices in praise,
For that deep and mysterious love.

THE WORLD THE CHRISTIAN'S FIELD OF LABOR.

Go work to-day in my vineyard. [Matt. 21: 28.

Go, then, disciple of the Lord,
  Go work for him to-day;
His vineyard o'er the earth is broad,
  Why wilt thou longer stay?

See longing souls that faint for bread,
  That bread of life divine:
Wherewith thy soul hath oft been fed,
  Since Jesus Christ was thine.

Speak to that poor, distrusting heart,
  That trembling stands with fear;
Cans't thou no words of peace impart,
  That wounded heart to cheer?

Point to the bleeding Lamb above,
  Who died the world to save;
To reconcile us to his love,
  His precious life he gave.

CHRIST OUR EXAMPLE.

For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself.
[Rom. 14: 7.

Behold the Lamb of God below,
Who left the realms of endless day;
And 'mid a world of guilt and woe,
Upon him took the form of clay.

His life was spent in doing good;
He had not where to lay his head;
Thousands his hand supplied with food,
He healed the sick, he raised the dead.

He lived our true example here,
And died our sacrifice at last;
His blood alone now brings us near
To God, in whom our hope is fast.

The first disciples followed in
The path their Savior's feet had trod;
They lived not to themselves, for sin
Still separated man from God

They warned the sinner to repent,
And sought, through Christ, a world to save;
O'er mountains and through vales they went,
And unto each a portion gave.

And counted their own lives not dear,
They truly suffered for his sake;
Like him they toiled and labored here,
And strove the sinner to awake,

We are disciples of the Lord—
  Partakers of his righteousness,
And may we spread his name abroad,
  And live like him a world to bless.

Then let our lives show forth his praise,
  By steadfast faith and works of love;
The God of grace prolongs our days,
  To gather souls for joys above.

PERSEVERANCE.

And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men. [Gal. 6: 9, 10.

Toil on ye christian pilgrims,
  In virtue's beaten way;
Toil on, the harvest cometh,
  And will not long delay.

O, be thou never weary,
  But follow Christ the Lord;
Then at the blessed harvest,
  Thou'lt reap a rich reward.

Reflect the light of glory
  Wide o'er the darksome globe,
'Till all who turn, believing,
  Put on the righteous robe.

Then in thy crown of glory
  They'll shine as stairs above;
And with thee drink the pleasure
  That flows from Jesus' love.

CHRISTIAN ACTIVITY.

And Jesus said unto him, No man having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God. [Luke 9: 62.

Awake, my soul, thy task perform,
  Before the gathering blast
Bursts forth in a terrific storm,
  And all thy hopes be past.

Arise, and with thy strength pursue
  The labor that thy God
Hath given thee on earth to do,
  To spread his name abroad.

And look not back, but pressing on,
  The prize thou wilt obtain;
And thou shalt go where Christ has gone,
  And in his kingdom reign.

Put on the armor of the Lord,
  And fight till thou hast won;
A crown above is thy reward,
  With that blessed "Well done."

Then let not fear, or aught below
  Deter thee on the road;
But follow on, and thou shalt know
  Thy Savior, Christ the Lord.

'Tis life eternal him to know,
  To all who do his will;
Where'er they meet, where'er they go,
  His love their souls shall fill.

O, love divine, now fill my soul,
And shield me all my way:
And though the stormy billows roll,
I ne'er will cease to pray.

THE INFLUENCE OF UNGODLY ASSOCIATION.

II Corinthians, 6: 14, 15, 16.

Art thou a follower of Christ?
And dost thou now on him rely?
Why wilt thou then be still enticed,
And turn thy Savior to deny?

O, be not yoked unequally
Together with an infidel:
For how can Jesus Christ agree
With darkness and with Belial?

What fellowship hath righteousness
With the unrighteousness and sin
Of those whose hearts only possess
What God himself hath called unclean?

How doth the temple of the Lord
Agree with idols made of clay?
The temple of the living God
Are ye whose sins are washed away.

Now God will come, the scripture saith,
And walk with you and be your God;
But unbelievers down to death
Will lead you, if you heed their word.

AGAINST WORLDLY-MINDEDNESS.

And Jesus answered, and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things. But one thing is needful. [Luke 10: 41, 42.

When weary I wander with trouble and care,
The world sometimes proving a dangerous snare,
The words of my Savior oft memory brings,
Thou art careful and troubled about many things.

When grief and deep sorrow o'erwhelmeth my soul,
Or when baser passions my mind would control,
Then comes the reproval as if borne on wings.
Thou'rt careful and troubled about many things.

When eagerly striving with little success,
In my humble manner my people to bless,
In vain comes the tempter and to me he sings,
Thou'rt careful and troubled about many things.

But Lord I'm determined thy work to pursue,
I want nought on this earth but thy will to do;
I want not the vain world, for trouble it brings:
I would not be troubled about many things.

I wish not for honor, for wealth, or for fame,
But always be trusting my Savior's dear name;
For all worldly pleasures will take to them wings,
I would not be careful about many things.

But there is one subject which shall be my care,
How I shall my heart for God's temple prepare;
This is one thing needful, true pleasure it brings,
I will not be troubled about many things.

THE DUTY OF FORGIVENESS.

So that contrariwise, ye ought rather to forgive him, and comfort him, lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow.

Wherefore I beseech you, that ye would confirm your love toward him.

For to this end did I write, that I might know the proof of you, whether ye be obedient in all things. [2 Cor. 2: 7, 8, 9.

Forgive, forgive, and comfort such,
  Lest they be swallowed up with grief;
Nor let them sorrow over much,
  But kindly come to their relief.

Even as Christ did not condemn,
  And gave the earnest of his love,
Ye should confirm your love toward them,
  Thereby your own obedience prove.

The Lord our God is judge of all,
  And he will judge in righteousness;
He hears the needy when they call,
  The widow and the fatherless.

The Lord is great, he dwells in heaven,
  High on his everlasting throne;
The Lord is good, to man he's given,
  That precious gift that will atone.

To that blest fountain we may go,
  And wash that we may all be clean;
He will our hearts make white as snow,
  Although like crimson they have been.

BROTHERLY LOVE.

He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. [1 John 2: 10.

O thou great source of love and light,
  Inspire us with thy love divine,
That we may love with all our might,
  And all we have shall then be thine.

If we continually abide
  Near the great source of light above,
Not all the joys on earth beside
  Can lure us from a brother's love.

If heirs of his sure promise given,
  To Abram and his seed by faith;
Bound to the same bright home in heaven,
  Saved from the powers of sin and death.

The Son of God shall be our light,
  To guide our steps in wisdom's way;
No cause of stumbling, for more bright
  It shineth on to perfect day.

Let each the other's burden bear,
  Avoiding all beseting sin;
And each remove the other's snare,
  Till we the heavenly prize shall win.

If here below our joys are one,
  How sweet shall be our peace above,
With all our toils and labors done,
  United with our head in love.

A PSALM OF THANKSGIVING.

1 Chronicles, 16: 36.

Give ye thanks now to the Lord
Call upon the name of God,
All his wondrous works make known,
Sing ye psalms before his throne,
Talk of all his works and fame,
Glory in his holy name,
Let the hearts of them rejoice,
That seek God, their blessed choice ;
Seek the Lord and his strength free,
Seek his face continually.
O remember he hath done
Wonders great beneath the sun,
And the judgments of his mouth
Are abroad in all the earth ;
O, ye seed, his chosen ones,
Ye his servants, Jacob's sons,
He is your great Lord your God,
Be ye mindful of his word ;
Even the covenant of grace,
Which he made to Abram's race;
And he hath confirmed the same
Unto Israel by name :
Saying, I will give the land
Canaan, into thy hand.
When ye were but e'en a few,
Sojourners and strangers too ;
When ye from one nation went,
And where'er ye pitched your tent ;

He reproved kings for your sake,
That he might you mighty make;
Suffering none to do you wrong,
Nor to do his prophets harm;
Sing now to the Lord your God,
All the earth show forth abroad
His salvation day by day,
In his own appointed way;
Spread his glory all around
Where the heathen may be found;
And his marvellous works among
All the nations, every tongue;
For great is the Lord our God,
Greatly to be praised abroad;
He is also to be feared—
And above all gods revered,
For the gods of all the land;
Idols are made with the hand;
But the Lord the heavens made
And without our feeble aid;
Honor is before his face,
Strength and gladness in his place;
Give to God the glory due
To his name, and fear him too;
Come before him, come and bring
Thankfully an offering;
Worship him in holiness,
For he is our righteousness;
Fear before him all the land,—
By his power the world shall stand;
Let the heavens above be glad,
And let not the earth be sad;

But rejoice and let men say,
Our Lord reigneth even to-day :
Let the fields obey his voice,
All that is therein rejoice ;
Let the deep unfathomed seas
Roar ; then shall the lofty trees
Of the dark and mighty wood,
Sing out, for the Lord is good ;
At the presence of the Lord,
For he comes, the Judge adored.
O, give thanks now to the Lord ;
Say ye, save us now, O God
Of our great salvation here,
Gather us together near :
From the heathen of the land,
Us deliver by thy hand,
That we may give thanks, and raise
Loud our voices in thy praise !
Blessed be the Lord again,—
All the people said Amen.

THE BACKSLIDER.

Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by ? behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow, which is done unto me, wherewith the Lord hath afflicted me in the day of his fierce anger. [Lam. 1: 12.

O, see ye not the deep distress
That we are in before the Lord ?
Against his law we did transgress,
We now receive a just reward.

The city of Jerusalem
  Lieth in waste, her gates are burned ;
The Lord in justice doth condemn
  The rebels, who his mercy spurned.

The ways of Zion now do mourn,
  For none come to her solemn feasts ;
O, God of grace, thou long hast borne
  The sins of her polluted priests.

O, turn thou us now to the Lord :
  Renew our days as those of old,
That we may serve the living God,
  And dwell within his peaceful fold.

THE BACKSLIDER REPROVED.

Thine own wickedness shall correct thee, and thy backslidings shall reprove thee; know therefore, and see, that it is an evil thing and bitter, that thou hast forsaken the Lord thy God, and that my fear is not in thee, saith the Lord God of hosts. [Jer. 2: 19.

O righteous God, my sins I own,
  Thou art most faithful, just and true ;
Beneath a load of sin I groan,
  Beneath thy just displeasure too.

Ah ! why did I forsake my God
  That led me in the perfect way ?
Why did I not obey the word ?
  No more from thee to go astray ?

Upon my own defenceless head,
I have called down thy mighty wrath :
Me, by thy spirit thou hast led,
But I forsook the narrow path.

And to myself, I have procured
The frown of an offended God ;
How can thy vengeance be endured,
The wrath of the Almighty Lord ?

Therefore it is, we know and see,
An evil and a bitter thing,
Thus to forsake, and fear not thee :
Transgression doth correction bring.

Reprove, O Lord, but do not slay,
And use the rod, but not the sword,
That we once more may find the way,
And learn to trust thy holy Word.

THE PUNISHMENT OF THE APOSTATE.

And the Lord said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh, and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.
And to the others he said in mine hearing, Go ye after him through the city and smite; let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity. [Ezek. 9: 4, 5

O, righteous God, and judge of all,
Before whom ancient Israel fell,
O, listen to our latest call,
And spare us yet thy love to tell.

Lord tear these idols from our hearts,
  And cleanse thy sanctuary now;
Before the day of grace departs,
  Help us submissively to bow—

That when from heaven thou shalt descend,
  Surrounded by an angel band,
Thou wilt our helpless souls defend,
  And strengthen by thy powerful hand.

Come, seal us thine forevermore,
  That when that awful day shall come,
When thou shalt on the nations pour
  Thy wrath, and seal their final doom,—

We may escape without delay,
  Bearing thy mark upon our brow,
The terrors of that awful day,
  Lord come and be our Savior now.

O may we make our peace with thee,
  Now while it is the accepted time,
That we may all thy glory see,
  And in thy righteous garment shine.

BACKSLIDERS INVITED TO RETURN.

Hosea 6: 1, 2, 3.

Come, weary souls, return again,
  And seek the presence of the Lord;
Come unto him with all your pain,
  And he will heal you by his word.

Seek Him, and pray with living faith,
  And he will raise you by his might;
Revive your soul, and save from death,
  That ye may yet live in his sight.

If then ye follow on to know
  The Lord, who saved you by his grace,
And serve him faithfully below,
  Ye shall behold him face to face.

Ye shall behold his glorious light,
  Refreshed by showers of grace divine;
And walk with him in robes of white,
  And in his blessed image shine.

And while eternal ages roll,
  He'll fill your heart with joy and praise;
That by His stripes ye were made whole,
  'Tis by His death your souls he'll raise.

O, grieve not that celestial dove
  That hovers o'er thy sinking frame,
He would embrace thee with his love,
  And bear thee to the bleeding Lamb.

THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL.

O Jerusalem, wash thine heart from wickedness, that thou mayest be saved: how long shall thy vain thoughts lodge within thee? [Jer. 4: 14.

Wash thine heart from every stain,
That thou mayest be blest;
How long shall vile thoughts and vain,
Lodge within thy breast?

Jesus hath prepared a place
Where we all may go;
'Tis the healing stream of grace,
Freely doth it flow.

Blessed Jesus, quickly come,
Wash us in thy blood,
That we never more may roam,
From our gracious God.

Nothing but thy blood applied
Can baptize the soul;
Nothing in the world beside,
That can make us whole.

THE WANDERER'S PRAYER

Look down from heaven, and behold from the habitation of thy holiness, and of thy glory: where is thy zeal and thy strength, the sounding of thy bowels, and of thy mercies toward me; Are they restrained?

Doubtless thou art our father, though Abraham be ignorant of us, and Israel acknowledge us not; thou, O Lord, art our Father, our Redeemer; thy name is from everlasting.

Isaiah 63: 15, 16.

Dear Lord, look down from heaven above,
  Behold us from thy holy place;
Where is thy zeal, thy strength, thy love?
  I long to see thy glorious face.

Are all thy mercies now restrained?
  Or dost thou still remember me?
My heart is sick, my head is pained,
  My eyes are dimmed, I cannot see.

Doubtless thou art my Father still,
  Though Abraham now knoweth it not;
Acknowledged not by Israel,
  Among thy people I'm forgot.

Forever Lord thou art the same,
  My great Redeemer, Father, Friend;
From everlasting is thy name,
  And through thy name, what joys descend.

In thy great name I humbly bow,
  O, come and wipe away these tears;
Thou hast heard prayer, and even now,
  I feel thee better than my fears.

GOD'S CHASTISEMENT A PROOF OF HIS LOVE.

Job 5: 17, 18, 19, 20, 21.

Behold, how happy is the man
  Whom God correcteth from above;
Despise not, then, the blessed plan,
  The chastening of Almighty love.

He maketh sores, and bindeth up,
  He woundeth, and his hands make whole;
And oft he gives the bitter cup,
  To cleanse and purify the soul.

And when through troubles thou dost go
  In six, he shall deliver, yea,
Surely in seven there shall be no
  Evil to touch or hinder thee.

In famine he shall thee redeem
  From death, 'till thy appointed hour;
In war thou shalt first look to him,—
  He can destroy the sword's power.

And from the scourge of every tongue
  Thou shalt be hid; nor be afraid
When the destruction shall among
  The nations spread—God is thine aid.

ENDURANCE.

For our light afflictions, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.
[2 Cor. 4: 17.

Look to the Lord, he hears thy sighs,
And knoweth all thy bitter tears;
Come unto me, the Savior cries,
My love shall cast out all thy fears.

For all our light afflictions here,
Which in a moment will be past,
Worketh for us it doth appear,
A weight of glory at the last.

If we with Christ endure below,
We sure shall reign with him above;
And those eternal joys we know,
Will fill the soul with perfect love.

Our hearts filled with this gracious hope,
We triumph over all our pain;
In sweet assurance we look up,
In Christ we shall that bliss obtain.

THE LORD OUR REFUGE.

I am as a wonder unto many, but thou art my strong refuge.
Psalm 71: 7.

Dear Lord, how many on me gaze,
And wonder that I still endure;
But unto thee be all the praise,
In thee alone I am secure.

Thou art my refuge, strong and high,
No other refuge can I see;
For thou dost hear the raven's cry,
Then surely I may trust in thee.

Thou art my shield— in thee I trust;
Thou cans't the needed grace impart;
And when the trump shall wake my dust,
I then shall see thee as thou art.

LOOKING FOR THE PROMISE.

But the end of all things is at hand; be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer. [Peter, 4 : 7.

Watch unto prayer then, O my soul,
While dark temptation's nigh,
While o'er my troubled spirit roll
Billows of sorrow high.

The end of all things is at hand,
Go dry that starting tear;
There is a fair and better land,
Where enters nought to fear.

With watchful heart and sober mind
I'll wait thy coming, Lord,
Till I that glorious rest shall find,
The promise of my God.

GRATITUDE FOR PAST FAVORS.

Hitherto hath the Lord helped us. [1 Samuel 7: 12.

Through troubled seas, and conflicts sore,
We hitherto have been led on,
And bounding waves have ceased to roar,
When Jesus by our side hath gone.

Lo, Jesus stands with outstretched arms,
Hark! hear his voice: Peace, Peace, be still;
Our troubled souls again are calm,
And we submissive to his will.

High as the heavens we now would raise
Our voice in honor of his name;
With joyful hearts we'll sing His praise,
And o'er the world His love proclaim.

We consecrate our all to thee,
O Lord, that we to thee may live;
And day by day our prayer shall be,
O Lord, to us thy spirit give.

Do thou forgive our follies past,
Renew us by thy grace and power;
Receive us to thyself at last,
Secure from dark temptation's hour.

GOD'S GRACE SUFFICIENT.

And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelation, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me. For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And he said unto me, my grace is sufficient for thee.
[2 Cor. 12: 7, 8, 9.

I blessed the day that I was born,
Rejoicing every breath;
But given there was to me a thorn,—
Affliction deep as death.

Lest through abounding faith and light
Which God to me had given,
I might now judge it meet and right
To exalt myself to heaven.

For this thing I besought the Lord
That it might far depart,
And that the grief my soul abhorred,
Be banished from my heart.

God, in his mercy heard my prayer,—
I saw his smiling face;
He answered, this thy soul can bear,
Sufficient is my grace.

THE BENEFITS OF AFFLICTION.

Before I was afflicted I went astray; but now have I kept thy word. [Psalm 119: 67.

How oft my feet have gone astray,
And wandered from the God of love,
How oft forsook the perfect way,
That leads the soul to joy above;
While God his gracious bounties gave,
My life to bless, my soul to save.

But when affliction's trying hour
Came near, I fled to Him in tears;
I felt that nothing but his power
Could from my heart dispel these fears:
I saw him with compassion move,
I threw me in his arms of love.

And now I love to keep his word,—
'Tis light and truth to guide my way:
Such heavenly joy those leaves afford,
I never more may go astray;
Long, long I his forbearance proved,
While in the paths of sin I roved.

Now, when afflicted I rejoice,
And bow and kiss the chastening rod:
For well I know 'tis Father's voice,
It is a voice that comes from God;
He calls me near his blessed side,
And says, Forever here abide.

His word shall ever be my joy,
My song by day, my peace by night;
His works shall be my blest employ,
His praise my ever new delight,
And when my days on earth are o'er,
I'll sing his praise forevermore.

ENCOURAGEMENT.

I will hear what God the Lord will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints; but let them not turn again to folly.
Surely his salvation is nigh them that fear him—that glory may dwell in our land. [Psalm 85: 8, 9.

Cease my soul, thy vain ambition,
Hearken to thy Maker's word;
He hath witnessed thy condition,
And thy oft repinings heard.

He will speak to this our nation,
And to all the saints abroad;
Peace, for surely his salvation
Is nigh them that fear the Lord.

Let them not return to folly,
But speak forth a Maker's praise,
Till our land be filled with glory,
And the knowledge of his ways.

He will surely bless our labors,
If we do not cease to pray;
Come then, all ye friends and neighbors,
Let us work for God to-day.

UNFAITHFULNESS LAMENTED.

Yet now be strong, O Zerubbabel, saith the Lord; and be strong, O Joshua, son of Josdech, the high priest; and be strong all ye people of the land, saith the Lord and work; for I am with you saith the Lord of hosts. [Haggai 2: 4.

How have we so unfaithful proved?
  Neglecting our blest means of grace;
How oft repeated warnings moved
  In vain our hearts to seek God's face.

'Till weak and helpless we were found,
  Our way hedged in on either hand:
But while the foe was gaining ground,
  We heard the voice of God's command.

Yet now be strong, Zerubbabel!
  And thou, be strong, O Joshua!
Now in the midst of thee I dwell;
  Go, all ye people, work to-day.

For I am with you, saith the Lord,
  As when ye out of Egypt came;
According to my holy word,
  My spirit shall with you remain.

With willing hearts we then obeyed
  The message of the Lord our God;
No more the dews of heaven are stayed,
  As a chastisement from the Lord.

Now in the strength and power and might
  Of the eternal great "I am,"
Who gave us strength and set us right,
  We'll carry forth his glorious plan.

'Till life's last morning sun shall dawn,
  When we shall bid this earth farewell,
And rise triumphant in that morn,
  Forevermore with Christ to dwell.

WATCHFULNESS.

He that worketh deceit shall not dwell within my house; he that telleth lies shall not tarry in my sight. [Psalm 101: 7

Ye saints of God, arise!
  Your houses guard with care,
That sin may not before your eyes
  Take the possession there.

For slander and deceit,
  And crimes of every hue
Will strive to gain within a seat,
  And tarry there with you.

O keep your own hearts pure,
  That you may ever be
A terror to the evil doer,
  That they may from you flee.

God surely will destroy
  The wicked of the land,
But all his saints shall still enjoy
  The blessings of his hand.

A CALL TO DUTY.

Come and let us build up the wall of Jerusalem, that we be no more a reproach.
Then I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me; as also the king's words that he had spoken unto me. And they said Let us rise up and build. So they strengthened their hands for this good work. [Neh. 2; 17, 18.

O come and let us build the wall,
That we may never be,
Accounted a reproach by all
The numerous enemy.
The Lord our God is good indeed,
Our stores and barns are filled,
He'll give us strength whene'er we need,
Let us rise up and build.

Strengthen your hand in this good work,
Let each perform his part,
Dispel your fears if any lurk
Within your every heart.
Then let our prayers ascend on high,
They surely will prevail,
Our great Redeemer is near by,
In him we cannot fail.

DECISION.

So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof; for the people had a mind to work.
Neh. 4: 6.

O Lord, may we like Judah's host,
Prepare to build up Zion's walls;
In thy great strength we make our boast,
While Satan and his kingdom falls.

Our enemies all laugh and mock,
They round the wall with envy lurk;
But vain is their malicious talk,
If we now have a mind to work.

The work already doth progress,
The wall is half completed now,
For thou hast promised us success,
If to thy throne we humbly bow.

We'll make our prayers now to our God,
And set a watch against the foe;
Assist us now, our blessed Lord.
To use the spear, the shield, the bow.

THE GREAT WORK OF THE CHRISTIAN.

And I sent my messengers unto them, saying, I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down: why shall the work cease, whilst I have it and come down to you?
Neh. 6; 3.

In vain the foe with all their charm,
Allures me to the field;
They only think to do me harm,
If I to them should yield.

There is a great work to be done:
  Why should the building cease?
Down from the wall I cannot come,—
  Then let me work in peace.

They need not threaten or accuse,
  To gain their wicked end,
For like the ancient faithful Jews,
  Our cause we will defend.

And in the strength of Israel
  We'll wrestle and prevail,
Nor fear the sons of Belial,
  Who oft our cause assail.

The Lord doth hear his people cry,
  And strengtheneth all their hands;
We are the apple of his eye,—
  We'll do as he commands.

CHRISTIAN RESPONSIBILITY.

And I said, Should such a man as I flee? and who is there, that, being as I am, would go into the temple to save his life? I will not go in. [Neh. 6: 11.

Should such a one as I, now flee
Before my numerous enemy?
I, who have been redeemed with blood,
And called a messenger of God?

And who is there, if as I am,
Would flee before a mortal man,
Or would into the temple go
To save his life from any foe?

I will not go, for God on high
Beholds with his all-seeing eye;
He will protect, and on me pour
A blessing from his heavenly store.

He'll keep me, too, from hidden foes;
My spirit shall in him repose;
In him is strength, in him is grace:
O, when shall I behold his face.

HUMILIATION AND PRAYER.

Unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul. [Psalm 25: 1.

O Lord, to thee we lift our souls;
To thee our thoughts aspire:
Thou art the centre round which rolls,
Our every fond desire.

But far, yes, far as yonder sky
Is from this lower sphere,
So far thy thoughts from ours, high
Above to us appear.

But in the image of thy Son
  We see thy mercy shown ;
For all the works that he hath done,
  Were done for us alone.

For us he lived, for us he died,
  For us he spilt his blood,
For us the Lord was crucified,
  To bring us home to God.

Yet how have we received thy laws?
  Obeying not the truth ;
Rejecting Christ without a cause,
  And hating his reproof.

With contrite hearts, O Lord, we pray,
  Thou wilt our lives yet spare;
In mercy save us, that we may
  Yet in thy victory share.

And may our songs be raised above,
  To praise thy holy name :
Redeeming grace and dying love,
  Shall be the sacred theme.

DELIVER US FROM EVIL.

And Jabez called on the God of Israel, Saying, Oh, that thou wouldst bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldst keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me! And God granted him that which he requested. [1 Chron. 4: 10.

O that thou wouldst but keep me,
From every evil way,
That I may never leave thee,
Or from true pleasure stray.

Now give me faith to conquer,
And reach that happy shore,
That I may never suffer
Or sin against thee more.

While sin's dark surges leaving,
A burden on the breast,
Like troubled waters heaving,
The spirit cannot rest.

For sin is sorely grievous,
Now to our burdened souls;
We pray thou wouldst not leave us,
While dark the surges roll.

O God, then grant my humble
And penitent request,
That I may never stumble,
But in my Savior rest.

And when my days are numbered,
  And thou shalt call me home,
His praise shall be remembered,
  When I have ceased to roam.

For on my lips his praises,
  Eternally shall dwell;
Among the souls he raises,
  His wondrous love to tell.

THE SAINT'S REST.

There remaineth, therefore, a rest to the people of God.
[Heb. 4: 9.

To thee I come, my blessed Lord,
  In thee I may find rest;
Encouraged by thy holy word,
  I come with my request.

I would not wander all the day
  In sorrow and in sin,
But would thy righteous call obey,
  Have faith, and enter in.

And O, my soul, from all thy works
  Of death and darkness cease;
O, search me, Lord, if still there lurks
  The hindrance of my peace.

If truly I am born of God,
  Let love now fill my breast;
The love that's promised in thy word,
  The earnest of that rest.

Let all I am be lost in thee,
  From thence no more to move;
Dear Lord this is the rest for me,—
  The rest of perfect love.

REPENTANCE FOR WORLDLY SORROW.

I am afraid of all my sorrows; I know that thou wilt not hold me innocent. [Job 9: 28.

My Father, who art full of love,—
  Whose love can never fail,
Now let my prayer ascend above,
  And in thy courts prevail.

O, save my soul from guilt and shame,
  And cleanse me in thy blood;
Prepare me that I may proclaim
  A great and gracious God.

Now, Lord, on me thy spirit pour,
  And sanctify my heart;
Bid this tumultuous ocean's roar
  Be still, and peace impart.

And let me never more complain
  Of leanness in my soul ;
But by thy love and power restrain,
  And every whit make whole.

Of all my sorrows I'm afraid,
  I know thou wilt not hold
Me innocent, for I've betrayed
  My trust : my love is cold.

Now by thy mighty power come down,
  And rescue now my soul ;
Me with thy richest mercy crown,
  And all my fears control.

A PRAYER FOR RENEWING GRACE.

There is therefore now no condemnation to those which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. [Rom. 8: 1, 2.

Now, Lord, come by thy spirit,
  Renew our souls in thee ;
Through thy atoning merit
  From inbred sin make free.

There is no condemnation
  To them which are in Christ ;
Delivered from temptation,
  By sinners ne'er enticed.

Who walk not by the fashion
  Of flesh or worldly lust,
Imbued with Christ's compassion,
  Their lives in him they trust.

For now by faith in Jesus,
  From sin's delusive spell
This gracious gospel frees us,
  His wondrous love to tell.

Come, now by thy great power
  Break sin and Satan's chains;
May we this gladsome hour
  Be cleansed from sin's remains.

Come, Lord, and sanctify us,
  O, sprinkle with thy blood;
Of other good deny us,
  But O, not this, my God.

We grasp thy gracious promise,
  We will not let thee go
Till thou remove the darkness,
  And light and peace bestow.

GIVING ALL FOR CHRIST.

But a certain man named Annanias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession, and kept back part of the price. [Acts 5: 1, 2.

Let not my soul one moment stay,
  Till Christ is all my own;
Nor stop till I have learned the way,
  To serve my God alone.

My blessed Lord, I would be thine,
  Yes, thine with all my heart;
All that I am, and all of mine,
  I will keep back no part.

Is aught on earth that strives to share
  My love for thee, my God,
It from my heart this moment tear,
  And cleanse me with thy blood.

Thou blessed Comforter now come.
  O may the Spirit seal
Me ever thine, thy will be done,
  O Lord thyself reveal.

O thou wilt come, I feel thee near,
  To fill my soul with love;
Thy love shall cast out every fear,
  O come, thou heavenly Dove.

Then shall my soul exulting prove,
  The breadth, and depth, and heighth,
And length of thy unchanging love,
  Thy power and thy might.

THE CHRISTIAN'S TRIUMPH.

O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt.
Matt. 14: 31.

When Jesus by his love divine,
Forgave my sins and set me free,
The glorious sun began to shine,
Then gloom and doubt were swift to flee.

But when the storm commenced to rise,
And fierce temptations o'er me roll,
And clouds bedimmed the upper skies,
Then gathered doubts around my soul.

But when I heard my Savior speak,
And say, O thou of little faith,
O wherefore didst thou doubt? if weak,
Remember what my gospel saith ,

Ask ye my Father in my name,
And he will give it unto you ;
Then kindled love into a flame,
All spectre doubts soon from me flew.

And now upon the sea of life,
I ride triumphantly along ;
Amid the cares, and toil, and strife,
I raise my voice in sacred song.

And though the billows toss and foam,
I travel safely with no fear ;
By faith in Christ I see my home,
Beyond this narrow bounded sphere.

And when I reach that port of peace,
I'll raise my voice in strains more loud,
To him who gained my soul's release,
Dispelling that thick gathering cloud.

Let saints and angels join the theme,
That hath begun our song below,
Around the throne of Christ the Lamb,
That saved us from our mighty foe.

PRAISING GOD FOR RENEWING GRACE.

And in that day thou shalt say, O Lord, I will praise thee; though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortedst me. [Isa. 12: 1.

O, Lord, I will praise thee,
Thy mercy hath raised me
From sorrow and sin;
Thine anger that burneth,
To love often turneth
My spirit to win.

Thy mercy was proffered,
Atonement was offered,
To rescue my soul;
My heart unbelieving,
While Satan deceiving,
Still kept the control.

But through thy rich treasure,
Thy love without measure,
  Was sent from thee, Lord;
For thy word hath taught me,
A great price hath bought me,—
  The price of thy blood.

Thou art now forever
My Savior, and never
  Will I cease to sing
Thy praises; while dwelling
On earth, I'll be telling
  Of Jesus my king.

Thy comfort abideth,
For it never hideth
  From me in distress;
Thy word shall endure,
Remaining secure,
  Forever to bless.

REHEARSING GOD'S MERCIES.

Truly God is good to Israel, even to such as are of a clean heart. But as for me, my feet were almost gone; my steps had well nigh slipped. [Psalm 73: 1, 2.

Truly Israel, God is good,
When we trust in him for food,
And to all whose hearts are clean,
Where no sin doth intervene.

But my sins were rising high,
And my steps had slipped, well nigh ;
With my feet upon the brink,
One more step, and lo ! I sink.

Jesus ready stood to save
Ere I sank below the wave,
Stretching out his mighty hand,
Bid me in his faith to stand.

Lord, I would in thee believe !
Thou wilt graciously receive ;
Thou shalt guide me in thy way
With thy counsel, day by day.

And if faithful here below,
Ever more thou wilt bestow
Grace and wisdom, to impart
Peace and comfort to the heart.

After that, thou wilt receive
Me to glory, there to live,
And with thee to reign above,
Evermore to sing thy love.

GOD'S WORD THE CHRISTIAN'S INHERITANCE.

Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage forever; for they are the rejoicing of my heart. [Psalm 119: 111.

Thy testimonies, God of love,
  Shall be my heritage;
They lead my soul to things above,
  From childhood unto age.

Them have I taken, ne'er to part
  With them—they are my guide—
And the rejoicing of my heart,—
  What can I want beside.

I have inclined my heart to thee,
  Thy statutes to perform;
For they are all things unto me,
  They clothe and keep me warm.

Thy gracious words are my delight,
  My comfort all the day;
My soul shall sing thy praise by night,
  And thy commands obey.

Thou art my heritage above,
  Long shall thy word endure;
It points to my Redeemer's love,
  Bids me in heart be pure.

Thy words shall raise me from the grave,
  To meet thee in the air;
For thou hast died my all to save,
  Thou wilt not leave me there.

THE FULFILMENT OF THE SCRIPTURES.

For verily, I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Matt. 5: 18.

Till heaven and earth shall pass away,
Thy law shall never fail;
Thy blest command we would obey,
O God, let it prevail.

Thy law is love—to love our God,
And love our fellow man;
Transgressors feel thy chastening rod,
Thy love, they never can.

The faithful soul that loves the Lord,
With all his heart and mind,
Receives the truths thy words afford,
With joy that's undefined.

In Christ thy word has been fulfilled,
Thy word hath purified;
Through all our soul thy truth distilled,
It cleansed and sanctified.

LOOKING TO GOD.

My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed; I will sing and give praise. Psalm 57: 7.

My heart is fixed, O God on thee,
  I'll sing and give thee praise,
Nor fear what foes can do to me;
  Thy truth shall guide my ways.

Though oft the hosts of darkness rise,
  And seek to cloud my sky;
On thee, by faith, I've fixed my eyes,
  Tis vain for them to try.

Thy mercy reacheth unto heaven,
  Thy truth up to the cloud;
At morn, at noon and at even,
  I'll pray and cry aloud.

For thou hast heard my fervent prayer,
  And stayed my heart on thee;
Thou wilt protect me from the snare
  The foe hath laid for me.

THE REVELATION OF THE SPIRIT.

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.
But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit; for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.
[1 Cor. 2; 9, 10.

Eye hath not seen, nor ear hath heard,
Nor doth the heart of man conceive,
The things which God hath by his word,
Prepared for those who do believe.

But God hath unto us revealed,
The mysteries of hidden things;
For by His Spirit we are sealed,
The Spirit all this knowledge brings.

The Lord gives life, and peace, and health,
And all the joys of social bliss;
He giveth all we want of wealth,
We thank, and praise the Lord for this.

But he hath given eternal life,
And pleasure that will never end,
Where neither care, nor toil, nor strife
Shall enter, where rich dews descend.

God's kingdom is in every heart,
That doth by simple faith receive
His blessed truths, that will impart,
True peace to all who will believe.

His gracious kingdom here below,
  Shall be a kingdom glorified;
Then we his perfect love shall know,
  And dwell with all the sanctified.

It doth not yet to us appear.
  That we shall be in heaven above;
But if we love and serve Him here,
  We shall be perfect in His love.

And when our blessed Lord shall come,
  To our salvation without sin,
To take His ransomed people home,
  We shall be made like unto Him.

THE PERFECT MAN IN CHRIST.

Till we all come, in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ. [Eph. 4: 13.

Lord, may we each our gifts improve,
  That is by grace bestowed;
And by thy Holy Spirit move,
  And keep the heavenly road,

Till we are perfect all in one,
  United in the faith,
And knowledge of thy blessed Son,—
  The mystery of his death.

Then from that blest immortal fount,
  Of everlasting life,
We'll drink, then with an angel mount
  Above this world of strife.

Then Christ shall dwell within our hearts,
  His gracious promise saith ;
For where love enters, sin departs,
  That sin that worketh death.

Our spirits then shall soar above,
  And with the saints in light,
May comprehend this wondrous love,
  In length, and depth, and heighth.

THE CHRISTIAN'S DUTY.

Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord. [Heb. 12: 14.

O God of peace, with power instil
  Thy holy principle of love
Into every heart, till peace shall fill
  The earth, as it does heaven above.
May discord and contention cease.
With all men let us follow peace,

And holiness of heart and life,
  Without which none shall see the Lord ;
For questions that engender strife,
  Are by the Holy One abhorred :
Let carnal minds these wilds pursue,
But saints have better work to do.

BECOMING MORE LIKE CHRIST.

But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord. [2 Cor. 3: 18.

But now we all with open face,
  Behold the glory of the Lord
As in a glass; and by his grace,
  We see his spirit in the word.

And while his glory we behold,
  O, glory to the name of God;
Our hearts into his image mould,
  As by the spirit of the Lord.

Then let us ever keep in view,
  The glorious prize for which we run;
And eagerly may we pursue
  Our journey, till the prize is won.

For Jesus is our leading star,
  He is our sun of righteousness;
He is the prize for which we are
  All striving ever to possess.

If we by faith behold his face,
  And follow in the heavenly road,
We soon shall win the blessed race,
  We shall be soon made like our Lord.

SALVATION NOT OBTAINED BY WORKS.

Then shall ye remember your own evil ways, and your doings that were not good, and shall loathe yourselves in your own sight.
Not for your sakes do I this, saith the Lord God, be it known unto you: be ashamed and confounded for your own ways, O house of Israel. [Ezekiel 36: 31, 32.

The Lord hath sprinkled with his blood,
And cleansed from all iniquity,
And purified us by his word,
Our labors blessed abundantly.

But this was not for our sake,
But for the sake of His great name;
For we the Lord did oft forsake,
Now for our ways we're filled with shame.

We loathe ourselves in our own sight,
When we remember all our ways;
For this is no small thing, or light,
That we are spared to sing His praise.

But He would have the heathen know,
That He is God, and doth provide,
And that His people where they go,
Are blest, and greatly multiplied.

THE CROSS THE CHRISTIAN'S GLORY.

But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world. [Gal. 6: 14.

I glory in the cross of Christ,
  And God forbid that I should be
By worldly glory e'er enticed,
  But ever seek humility.

By faith in Christ I'm crucified,
  To all the world of sin and shame;
By faith in him we're sanctified,
  O there is power in Jesus' name.

The world is crucified to me,
  No more I seek its fleeting charms;
For Jesus Christ by faith I see,
  I rest supported in His arms.

Forever here, O let me rest,
  And glory in his holy name;
In Him my soul is ever blest,
  In him my faith shall still remain.

THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM.

When they had heard the king, they departed; and lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.
When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. [Matt. 2: 9, 10.

When gentle eve steals o'er the earth,
My humble voice I raise,
All free from toil, all care and mirth,
My God, I'll sing thy praise.

O let thy Spirit now descend,
May I a tribute bring,
To my Redeemer, Savior, Friend,
To thee, my God and King.

The waning moon is shining low,
Where flows the crystal tide,
And balmy zephyrs gently blow,
As on the waters glide.

The feathered tribes now cease their flight,
Their evening notes proclaim;
All nature sweetly doth unite,
In one delightful strain.

The planets harmonizing shine,
In their appointed sphere;
And rolling oceans! how sublime
The heavens and earth appear.

Is it not like Jerusalem,
  Where rose the eastern star,
Which shone o'er ancient Bethlehem,
  That sages followed far?

O, star of hope! it still doth bring
  Good tidings to our race;
Salvation through our heavenly King,
  Illuminating grace.

But if perchance a meteor's ray,
  Should shine upon the place,
And we mistake the glimmering way,
  'Twill lead us far from grace.

But if we follow on to know
  What God designs for his,
And ask him but his will to show,
  'Twill lead where Jesus is.

O let no good that we have known,
  Or beauty here outshine
The crowning goodness thou hast shown,
  That we might all be thine.

THE TRIUMPH OF THE GOSPEL.

There shall be an handful of corn in the earth upon the top of the mountains; the fruit thereof shall shake like Lebanon; and they of the city shall flourish like grass of the earth.
[Psalm 72: 16.

Once in a silent upper room,
Where dwelt the humble few,
A voice arose amid the gloom,
In prayer sincere and true.

These faithful mourners bowed the head,
By bitter grief oppressed;
Deserted by the world they fled,
And sought a quiet rest.

Again they met with one accord,
To read, and sing, and pray,
And hear the blessed word of God,
On Pentacostal day.

But suddenly there came a sound,
Descending from above,
That made that holy place resound,
With songs of Jesus' love.

For as the rushing mighty winds,
The Holy Spirit came;
And thousands who renounced their sins,
Believed on Jesus' name.

Then everywhere they preached the word,
And multitudes believed
The gospel of the blessed Lord,
Which many had received.

From north to south, and east to west,
  Their words like arrows flew,
For soon the members of the blest,
  Were scattered like the dew.

And now throughout our blessed land,
  The gospel trumpet sounds,
And blessed is the Christian band,
  Where holy love abounds.

Though on the mount of Palestine,
  The holy seed was sown
By Jesus, the poor Nazarene,
  Who toiled and sweat alone—

The fruit now shakes like Lebanon,
  We hear the music sweet,
From morning till the set of sun,
  Where'er his people meet.

HUMAN LIFE.

What is your life? [James 4: 14.

What is your life? a vapor
  That rises in the air,
That but a moment lingers,
  Although it seems so fair.

What is your life? a shadow,
  That vanishes away;
It tarries but a moment,
  For death makes no delay.

What is your life? a flower,
That bloometh in the morn,
And fadeth in an hour,
Or at the evening dawn.

What is your life? a journey;
We're travellers here below,
To that blest, happy country,
Or to the world of woe.

Awake, O thou, from sleeping,
Prepare to meet thy God!
Forevermore believing
In Jesus Christ the Lord.

I WOULD NOT LIVE ALWAYS.

Job 7: 16.

How blest in youth to make the choice
Of wisdom's path of rest and peace,
That makes the soul in age rejoice.
When hopes of life and pleasure cease.

We would not always live below,
Where scenes of joy so soon are past;
But onward gladly would we go,
Where youth and beauty ever last.

For there the spirit, ever young,
  Shall never feel the waste of time,
But shall with an immortal tongue,
  Rejoice in strains of love sublime.

But we will wait till God shall call
  Our spirits home to rest above;
Obediently performing all
  Our works of faith, and hope, and love.

GOD'S PROMISE SURE.

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.
[Psalm 116: 15.

Rest, rest from thy labor of love;
  Thy Savior hath bidden thee go
To rest that is sweeter above,
  Than aught thou hast tasted below.

Thy prayers and thy labors are blest,
  The Lord is not slack to perform;
He heard thy most fervent request,*
  And sheltered thy babes from the storm.

Let Christians rejoice and be glad,
  In him that is faithful and true;
We would not be mournful or sad,
  For thou art now praising him too.

* "Be kind sweet friends, to my orphan babes." (Dying request of Mrs. M———)

And when we shall meet him above,
We'll praise him in notes more divine;
For all that compassionate love,
That in his divinity shine.

THE DYING CHRISTIAN.*

For to me to live is Christ, to die is gain. [Phil. 1: 21.

He gladly resigns his commission from heaven,
With all of his labors, his hopes and his fears;
He knows from the hand of the Lord they were given,
He yields them again in the midst of his years.

His toil and his sufferings will soon have an ending,
Then peace in his bosom forever shall reign;
His spirit to God is in triumph ascending,
To live hath been Christ, and to die now is gain.

Around his death-bed now loved ones are bending,
While heavenly music is filling the room,
For mortals with angels their voices are blending,
While death is preparing his work for the tomb.

The light of the earth is now fading before him,
But glory from heaven breaks forth on his sight,
He sees the Redeemer, and hastes to adore him,
To dwell in his presence—forever in light.

* Suggested on reading an account of the closing scene in the life of the Rev. D. H. M.

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